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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/761,082	01/20/2004	William E. Kramer	D/A3191	1439

7590 04/12/2006

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EXAMINER

PURVIS, SUE A

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1734

DATE MAILED: 04/12/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Cn

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/761,082	<b>Applicant(s)</b> KRAMER ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> Sue A. Purvis	<b>Art Unit</b> 1734	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 April 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,7 and 8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,7 and 8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 03 April 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Amendment***

1. Applicant's arguments filed 03 April 2006, with respect to the 35 U.S.C. 112 rejection have been fully considered and are persuasive. However, now that the structure of the claimed apparatus is more, a new rejection has been found and detailed below. This action will be made final because the rejection is based on the claims as amended by the applicant.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1, 2, 7 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Alicea (US Patent No. 5,711,846) in view of Sette et al. (US Patent No. 6,435,245 B1).

Regarding claim 1, Alicea discloses an apparatus for processing sheets, comprising:

(1) a roller pair (41', 45') forming a nip and operable to move a sheet (M) through in a process direction and a reverse direction (col. 13, lines 11-47); (2) a sticker applicator (2') disposed upstream of the nip in the process direction and configured to place a sticker on trailing edge of the sheet (M) (Figures 2(b) and 13); and (3) a microprocessor controls all the media handling and jam detection functions (col. 10, lines 15-19.) This results in effective control of the roller pair to move a sheet initially in the process direction, and then

Art Unit: 1734

temporarily move the sheet in the reverse direction to receive a sticker from the sticker applicator, and then to move the sheet having the sticker thereon through the main nip in the process direction. However, Alicea does not disclose crease rollers, which form a folding nip upstream of the sticker applicator, and the crease rollers being operable to fold a sheet passing there through. In Alicea, the articles are fed to the sticker applicator already folded, however, Sette discloses the feasibility of having the folder apparatus, in particular the crease rollers, located just upstream of the sticker applicator, as shown in Figure 4. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include the folder with crease rollers upstream of the sticker applicator in Alicea, as taught by Sette, because including both in the same machine is within the purview of one having ordinary skill in the art.

Regarding claim 2, the sticker applicator (2') interposes a sticker in a path of a sheet moving in the reverse direction from the main nip as shown in Figure 13.

Regarding claim 7, the sticker applicator (2') including a dispenser for taking a sticker from a backing substrate. (See Figure 13.)

Regarding claim 8, Alicea does not specifically discuss the supply of the tabs, however one of ordinary skill in the art would appreciate that there must be a supply of tabs and that it is well known in the art to supply the tabs to a device such as Alicea by means of a spool. Sette discloses a supply roll (24).

### ***Conclusion***

4. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

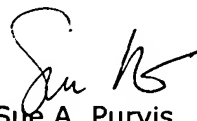
Art Unit: 1734

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sue A. Purvis whose telephone number is (571) 272-1236. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 9am to 6pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christopher A. Fiorilla can be reached on (571) 272-1187. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
Sue A. Purvis  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 1734

SP  
April 9, 2006